

Partnership for Clean Indoor Air

The Partnership for Clean Indoor Air, was launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg to address the increased environmental health risk faced by more than 2 billion people in the developing world who burn traditional biomass fuels indoors for cooking and heating. According to the World Health Organization, their increased exposure results in an estimated 2 million premature deaths each year, largely among women and children.

The Partnership -

- is bringing together governments, industry and non-governmental organizations to increase the use of affordable, reliable, clean, and efficient home cooking and heating practices.
- aspires to halving mortality related to indoor air pollution in targeted areas.

The Challenge

Over 2 billion people worldwide use traditional biomass fuels (e.g., wood, dung, crop residues) for cooking and heating. As a result, an estimated over 2 million people – particularly women and children – die each year from breathing elevated levels of indoor smoke. These practices are also associated with adverse pregnancies (e.g., stillbirth and low-weight babies) and may increase by 2-6 times a young child's risk of serious respiratory infection. The World Bank has designated this issue as one of the four most critical global environmental problems.



A Committed Response

The Partners are contributing their resources and expertise to improve health, livelihood and quality of life by reducing exposure to air pollution, primarily among women and children, from household energy use.

The Partnership for Clean Indoor Air is initially focusing on four priority areas:

- Social/Behavioral Barriers
- Market Development
- Technology Design
- Health Effects Research



What We Are Doing

Pilot Projects – Partners are funding Pilot Projects throughout the world: France in Africa and Asia, Italy in China, and the Shell Foundation in India, Africa, and Central America. The United States will be funding six pilots this year in high risk, high potential regions. The grants will support demonstrably effective pilot projects that increase the use of affordable, reliable, clean, efficient, and safe home cooking and heating practices to reduce people's exposure to indoor air pollution from these household energy practices.

Design and Performance Guidelines Workshop - This Workshop, which will be held in Seattle on February 2-3, 2004, is being sponsored by the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air and Engineers in Technical, Humanitarian Opportunities of Service-learning (ETHOS). We will be establishing broad design and performance principles for home cooking and heating practices that can be used by a wide range of organizations throughout the world.

Health and Exposure Assessment Protocol Workshop - The Italian Ministry of the Environment is hosting this Workshop in Rome, in March. The purpose is to refine and institutionalize uniform (harmonized) design protocols for health and exposure assessments. These protocols will then be used in all Partnership for Clean Indoor Air Pilot Projects.

What You Can Do

- **Join the Partnership** by contacting the Partnership Coordinators or by dropping off your contact information.
- **Share information** on Pilot Projects that you are working on or best practices.
- **Participate** in Partnership Workshops and activities.

Long Term Plans - The Partnership will focus on broad expansion of efforts throughout partnering countries. Performance will be evaluated, approaches (outreach modules, business models, and financing mechanisms) refined, and longer-term implementation plans identified.

Long-term sustainability through local market and business development will be prioritized. The Partnership will also support the direct exchange within regions of experiences among users/cooks, researchers, entrepreneurs, project implementers, and program directors.



For more information...and to become a partner, contact:

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